Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICOSI 01987 201128Z

21
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-05 SAJ-01 TRSE-00 /074 W
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R 201010Z JUN 75
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1850
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USUN
DIA WASHDC
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 1987

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CY TU PFOR PINT
SUBJECT: TURK CYPRIOT ELECTIONS; UDI

1. SPEAKING TO EMBOFF JUNE 17, PRESIDENT TURK CYPRIOT CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY NECDET UNEL INDICATED THAT PARLIAMENTARY AND PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS, WHICH UNDER PROVISIOES RECENTLY APPROVED CONSTITUTION ARE SCHEDULED BE HELD WITHIN SIX MONTHS, MAY BE POSTPONED. UNEL NOTED THAT GREEK CYPRIOTS HAVE PUT OFF THEIR PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS FOR ONE YEAR; OPINED TURKISH SIDE WOULD DO LIKEWISE, PARTICULARLY IF NEGOTIATIONS SHOW ANY SIGN OF PROGRESS "TOWARDS CONFEDERATION". UNEL THOUGHT PRESSURE FOR EARLY ELECTIONS WOULD BECREASE AFTER TURK CYPRIOT ASSEMBLY GOES INTO SUMMER RECESS.

2. WHEN ELECTIONS ARE HELD, UNEL STATED CATEGORICALLY THAT DENKTASH WOULD SEEK PRESIDENCY RATHER THAN PRIME MINISTERSHIP -- RECENT RUMOR IN TURKISH COMMUNITY. CLAIMED DENKTASH HAD ASSURED HIM, UNEL, THAT HE WOULD BE CHOSEN

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PAGE 02 NICOSI 01987 201128Z

AS COMMUNITY'S FIRST PRIME MINISTER. COMMENT. DESPITE

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

REPORTED ASSURANCE, QUESTIONABLE WHETHER DENKTASH WOULD SELECT AN INDIVIDUAL AS INDEPENDENT AS UNEL FOR THIS POTENTIALLY SENSITIVE AND DIVISIVE POSITION. END COMMENT.

3. UNEL SAID TURK CYPRIOTS WOULD PROCLAIM UDI IF GREEK SIDE BREAKS OFF NEGOTIATIONS, PRESUMABLY AFTER VIENNA III, AND SEEKS FURTHER "INTERNATIONALIZATION" OF CYPRUS PROBLEM. SAID UDI ALSO LIKELY OCCUR AS RESULT ANY GOC-SPONSORED GUERILLA, OR OTHER MILITARY, ACTIVITY. SAID TURK CYPRIOTS HAVE INFORMATION THAT GREEKS IMPORTING "OFFENSIVE" WEAPONS AND CLAIMED THERE SUBSTANTIAL AUGMENTATION IN MAINLAND GREEK FORCES ON ISLAND. COMMENT. WE HAVE NO INFORMATION TO SUBSTANTIATE EITHER ALLEGATION AND REGARD IT AS HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT GREEKS ARE PLANNING ANY OFFENSIVE MILITARY ACTION. END COMMENT.

4. ON INTERNAL TURK CYPRIOT POLITICS, UNEL CONFIRMED THAT DENKTASH IS UNDER CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE FROM MANY ELEMENTS IN COMMUNITY. ADMITTED THAT RECENT SERIES OF PROBING QUESTIONS ON CORRUPTION, SUBMITTED TO ASSEMBLY BY AYDIN SAMI (RANKING TURK CYPRIOT MEMBER OF PARA-MILITARY TMT) HAD LED MANY IN COMMUNITY TO BELIEVE THAT MILITARY IS TURNING AGAINST DENKTASH. UNEL SAID HE HAD TALKED WITH SAME AND WAS ASSURED THAT QUESTIONS WERE "PERSONAL" AND DID NOT REFLECT POSITION OF TMT AS WHOLE. COMMENT. DOUBTFUL WHETHER SAMI WOULD PUBLICLY SUBMIT QUESTIONS IMPLICITLY CRITICIZING REGIME WITHOUT APPROVAL HIS MAINLAND MILITARY SUPERIORS. HE HAS NEVER SPOKEN OUT IN PUBLIC BEFORE. WE REGARD SAMI'S INQUIRY AS INDICATION THAT TURKISH MILITARY GENUINELY UPSET OVER CORRUPTION IN DENKTASH ADMINISTRATION, WHICH HAS REACHED SIGNIFICANT PROPORTIONS. AND COMMENT.
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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